



San Diego City Attorney MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE

NEWS RELEASE

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CITY RECOVERS \$550, 000 FROM DEBTORS, WILL DELAY DEADLINE TO POST DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS ON CITY ATTORNEY'S WEB SITE

San Diego, CA: In just three months, \$550,000 in payments from delinquent accounts has been recovered by the City Collections Division. As a result of this significant voluntary compliance, there will be a delay in posting the list of delinquent non-consumer debt on the City Attorney's web site. Last November, the unpaid debt to the City amounted to more than \$56 million from delinquent businesses taxes, damage to City property, rent or fees for use of City property, parking tickets, water and sewer bills, and fire and police services.

"The businesses and persons who owe the City money have already been notified," said City Attorney Michael Aguirre. "If they dispute the claim, they still have about 45 days to resolve it before the list is posted on the web site."

Last December, in a joint letter from the City Attorney's Office and the City Collections Division, notices were mailed to 56,000 persons and/or businesses specifying the amount of money they owed on their delinquent accounts and how to contact City Collections to pay the debt or dispute the claim. The list of debtors who did not respond was to have been posted on the City Attorney's web site in January but since the publicity and notices generated significant voluntary cooperation the posting of delinquent accounts is being delayed in order to encourage more people to cooperate.

Mayor Jerry Sanders applauded the aggressive action which was initiated by the City Attorney's Office and the City's Collections Division. "This is just one way that citizens can help us stabilize the City's financial crisis," said Sanders.

The list of delinquent accounts is now expected to be posted in April. Additional notices are also being mailed by the Collections Divisions. Individuals and businesses can also contact the City Treasurer's Collections Division at (619)744-3100 for information regarding debts owed to the City.

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